

MEMBER OF THE SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Madame Chairman: I am Ed Grady, Rancher and Landowner, resident of Canyon Creek, Montana, which is thirty miles North West of Helena.

I am here today in support of SB 325, which extends the time from one (1) year to five (5) years for local Governments to try to implement zoning regulations in an area after enough protest by present law to defeat Zoning in presented to the Counties or government entities.

Members of the Committee: A recent effort to implement zoning in our area was defeated by 80% of the land owners. By allowing Government to try to implement zoning every year can cause harassment to land owners.

Many land owners feel zoning is Government taking their private property rights away and will depreciate their land.

If our ancestors knew how government agencies were trying to tell them what they can and cannot do with their land, they would turnover in their graves, for they worked very hard in putting the land together.

Members, most land owners are not against planning for the future, but would like to make their own decisions when it comes to their property. Thank You.